



NIP-232

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

K. ARAKI et al

Serial No. 09/813,914

Group Art Unit: 2128

Filed: March 22, 2001

Examiner: R. Frejd

For: METHOD OF OFFERING WALL-THICKNESS THINNING PREDICTION
INFORMATION, AND COMPUTER-READABLE RECORDING MEDIUM
STORING WALL-THICKNESS THINNING PREDICTION PROGRAM, AND
METHOD OF PLANNING PIPING WORK PLAN

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

UNDER § 1.97 AND § 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop DD
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

1. This IDS should be considered:

(a) when filed within three months of the filing date of the present application, or within three months of the filing date of the National Stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs last;

(b) when filed before the mailing date of either a Final Rejection under § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first and when 1(a) does not apply. For this purpose, there is included herein either a certification in section 4 below (included when indicated by a marked box), or a fee of \$180.00 (a Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed, or if not see section 5 below);

(c) when filed prior to the payment of the Issue Fee, when 1(a)-(b) do not apply, and when a certification is included in section 4 below (included when indicated by a marked box); then the Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) and request(s) consideration of this IDS, and provided herewith is a fee of \$180.00 (a Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the petition fee, or if not see section 5 below).

2. When 1(a)-(c) do not apply, then it is requested that this IDS be placed in the file.

3. Listing of the information submitted is on the attached Form PTO-1449, which forms a part of this IDS. A copy of each listed document is enclosed.

4. The undersigned hereby states:

☒ (a) that each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, as indicated on the copy of the communication submitted herewith, which communication was dated not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or

☐ (b) that no item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

5. If a fee or additional fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee or additional fee that may be required and credit any excess to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.

6. No explanation of relevancy is being provided for the documents because their relevance is as stated in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application.

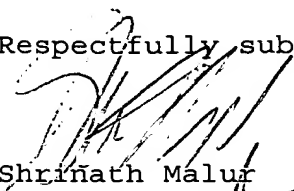
7. If the PTO determines that part(s) of the required content is inadvertently omitted, then it is requested that

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the Applicant(s) be given additional time and specific identification of such omission(s) to enable full compliance.

Respectfully submitted,



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FORM PTO-1449
(REV. 7-80)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

SERIAL NO.

NIP-232

09/813,914

LIST OF DOCUMENTS CITED BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT

K. ARAKI et al

FILING DATE

March 22, 2001

GROUP

2128

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

* EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE (If Appropriate)
AA						
AB						
AC						
AD						
AE						
AF						
AG						
AH						
AI						
AJ						
AK						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
AL	08-178172	07/12/96	Japan (Abstract only)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AM	10-141600	05/29/98	Japan (Abstract only)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AN						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AO						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AP						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

AR	Ferng et al, "Prediction of Pipe Thinning Location for Nuclear Power Plant and Its Application to Pipe Wall Monitoring", MONTHLY JOURNAL OF
	TAIPOWER'S ENGINEERING, Feb. 1999, Vol. 606, pp. 10-27.
AS	Ferng et al, "A Physical Model to Predict Wear Sites Engendered by Flow-
	Assisted Corrosion", NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY, Vol. 126, June 1999, pp. 319-330.
AT	Chung et al, "A Study on Wear Locations for HP Turbine Extraction Piping in the Maanshan Nuclear Power Plant", CANADIAN NUCLEAR SOCIETY, May 1998,
	pp. 1655-1662.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.